



ATLA 2012 Annual Conference opening reception: Marcia Gammon, Julie Hines, Native American flutist Eldred Matt, and Leslie Engelson

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We welcome your submission of news, photos, and other items of interest for the *ATLA Newsletter*. All submissions are due on the first business day of the month preceding publication. Contact [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

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**From the President**

**On the Move**

As many of you know, I physically moved this past summer from North Carolina to Minnesota and so I've been thinking quite a bit about movement and transitions. A couple of weeks ago, the Common Lectionary took me to 2 Samuel 7 where King David is chatting with the Prophet Nathan and proposes a significant upgrade to the tent holding the ark. King David himself is in a nice house made of cedar and it doesn't seem right that God's ark of the covenant resides in a flimsy tent. God's response is instructive - "no". As Gail Ricciuti comments about the passage, "It seems that this God values the flexibility--the divine capacity to strike camp and be on the move--that tented life affords. While human beings tend to calculate value by size and quality, God estimates a dwelling place according to agility and responsiveness."



This is helpful word for theological libraries and for ATLA. Libraries have long calculated a certain value by size and quality. Larger and well-developed libraries must be better and smaller, less-developed libraries must be...well...not as good. While size and quality metrics can be useful, they can be less relevant in an age where libraries have much less of a monopoly on information. Agility and responsiveness have indeed become the higher values as our institutions seek to respond to the changing needs of our students, faculty, and clients. In light of this change, how can libraries be more agile and responsive to the needs of our institutions? How can librarians be more agile and responsive to our users? How can ATLA become more agile and responsive to needs within religious and theological education? As we emerge from our well-built stacks and head towards what appears to be a flimsy tent, I look forward to learning from each other in our journey.

--Andrew Keck

## 2013 Call for Proposals

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The Annual Conference and Education Committees cordially invite members and friends of the American Theological Library Association to submit proposals for:

- Pre-conference Workshops
- In-conference Workshops
- Papers
- Panel Presentations
- Listen & Learn Sessions
- Interest Group Presentations
- Conversation Groups
- Posters or Other Special Sessions

The conference will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 19-22, 2013. The Committees will consider proposals addressing theological librarianship, the academic disciplines of theology, and/or general librarianship.

For more information, instructions, and to submit a proposal, please visit the [2013 Proposal Guidelines](#) page. All submissions are due by Sunday, September 30.

## ATLA Welcomes Extern

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ATLA welcomed its first-ever extern, Warren Watson, on July 12, through a collaboration with the University of Chicago's Career Advising and Planning Services. Warren is a current MA student at the University of Chicago Divinity School, majoring in History of Religion, and also holds an MLS from Clark Atlanta University. ATLA provided Warren the opportunity to shadow a number of different staff members, sitting in on a full day of taskforces, working groups, and one-on-one meetings. The day's agenda covered a range of topics from metadata standards to database migration. Gregg Taylor, Manager of Business Development, who served as Warren's primary staff liaison noted appreciatively, "ATLA was grateful for the opportunity to host Warren for an externship and promote the work of theological librarians. His inquisitive mind and thoughtful questions equally benefited us as an association."



## ATLA 2013 Annual Conference to Be Held In Conjunction With Third Annual Conference on Information and Religion

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The American Theological Library Association's Annual Conference and Education Committees are pleased to announce that the ATLA 2013 Annual Conference will be held in conjunction with the [Center for the Study of Information and Religion's](#)

Third Annual Conference on Information and Religion

The Center for the Study of Information and Religion (CSIR) is a research initiative of the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at Kent State University. CSIR was founded in 2009 with the goal of facilitating research on

the various institutions and agents of religion and their effect on social knowledge through the use, dissemination, and diffusion of information.

The 2013 Conference on Information and Religion will carry a theme of "The Social Construction of Religious Knowledge" and will feature papers and posters addressing a broad variety of topics, including defining and interpreting data and information in the understanding of religious knowledge; the role of sermons in the social construction of knowledge; the construction of shared knowledge between different faith traditions; preserving and making available religious texts and information objects associated with the construction of religious knowledge; information in its application to clergy and congregations as communities of practice. CSIR will also host a keynote presentation by Peter Ochs, Ph.D., Edgar M. Bronfman Professor of Modern Judaic Studies, University of Virginia, and founding editor of the *Journal of Scriptural Reasoning*. Holding the ATLA 2013 Annual Conference and the Conference on Information and Religion in conjunction will allow attendees to enhance their learning experiences, attending sessions presented by both organizations and creating new connections with colleagues. Please visit the [ATLA Annual Conference](#) page for additional information as it is available.

## **ATLA Member Renewals**

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Renewal of institutional and individual memberships in the American Theological Library Association is now underway. The ATLA membership year runs from September 1 through August 31.

A message from ATLA Board President Andrew Keck was e-mailed to members on Wednesday, July 25. All individual members and member representatives of institutional, international institutional, and affiliate members should have received this first e-mail notice regarding membership renewals. If you did not receive a renewal notice, please contact [memberrep@atla.com](mailto:memberrep@atla.com).

As Keck stated in his message, ATLA membership provides numerous benefits, including discounted conference registration, publications (*ATLA Newsletter*, *Theological Librarianship*, *Theology Cataloging Bulletin*, and the annual *ATLA Summary of Proceedings*), access to networking, professional development opportunities, discounts on products, and more.

Members will receive a second reminder to renew later in August. Thanks to those members who have already renewed their memberships online. If you have questions or concerns regarding your 2012-2013 ATLA membership renewal, please e-mail [memberrep@atla.com](mailto:memberrep@atla.com).

## **ATLA Welcomes Eight Titles to *ATLASerials*® (*ATLAS*®)**

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Chicago, IL, August 6, 2012 - The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) is pleased to welcome eight titles that will be available in forthcoming releases of *ATLASerials*® (*ATLAS*®), ATLA's online full-text collection of more than 200 major religion and theology journals.

- *Chaplaincy Today*, an electronic only journal by Association of Professional Chaplains
- *Comparative and Continental Philosophy*, by Equinox Publishing Ltd.
- *Implicit Religion*, by Equinox Publishing Ltd.
- *Road to Emmaus*, by Christ the Savior Orthodox Brotherhood
- *Rural Theology*, by Equinox Publishing Ltd.
- *Theologische Rundschau*, by Mohr Siebeck
- *Zeitschrift fur Dialektische Theologie*, by Protestantse Theologische Universiteit im Kampen
- *Zeitschrift fur Theologie und Kirche*, by Mohr Siebeck

Gregg Taylor, ATLA's Manager of Business Development, commented, "With these additions, the *ATLAS* collection increases to over 220 titles. We are especially excited to add the first German language journals to *ATLAS*. The widening international scope of the collection will benefit the research of our global users."

Read the [full press release](#) on the ATLA website.

## **2012 NFAIS Humanities Roundtable XI: Focus on the Library!**

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The National Federation of Advanced Information Services (NFAIS - [www.nfais.org](http://www.nfais.org)) announces the Eleventh Annual NFAIS Humanities Roundtable, *Focus on the Library!*, to be held at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, Monday, October 1, 2012.

ATLA is well-represented this year. The program of distinguished presenters includes ATLA Board Vice President, Beth Bidlack, Collection Assessment and Analysis Librarian, Dartmouth University. Margot Lyon, ATLA Director of Business Development, is a member of the planning committee.

Additional information regarding the program, registration, and other logistics may be accessed at: <http://www.nfais.org/page/370-2012-nfais-humanities-roundtable>. Note that virtual attendance is possible for the first time.

[Read the full press release](#).

## **Routine Maintenance Reminder**

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Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, September 3, 2012. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CDT). Services that will be affected include ASE, listservs, the ATLA website and member community sections. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

## 2012 Annual Conference - Scottsdale, AZ

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The 2012 ATLA Annual Conference, *A Desert Retreat*, was held in Scottsdale, Arizona, June 27-30. Attracting 300 members, exhibitors, and guests from around the world, the conference once again proved to be a tremendous success. With the help of the ATLA Education and Annual Conference Committees, as well as the local host committee, the Theological Library Cooperative of Arizona, the conference provided attendees and guests with a full schedule of programming, speakers, and excursions.

Held at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort at Gainey Ranch, the facilities and service proved to be second-to-none. The opening and closing receptions provided attendees with a taste of the Southwest, including excellent entertainment by a Native American flute player and a traditional Mariachi band. Attendees and guests who were able to participate in an excursion were treated to tours of Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West, Sedona, a native culture and plants tour, Old Scottsdale, and various other local destinations. [Click here to see pictures](#) from some of these, as well as other activities at the conference.

Plenary sessions featured Dr. Norm Wakefield and Dr. Camilla A. Alire. The pre-conference workshop, *Making Innovation Happen*, led by Jeff Cufau, was a successful session that provided participants with tangible ways to foster innovation at their home institutions. Attendees also enjoyed a full exhibit hall, having the opportunity to view products and services from over fifty vendors. And, with over one hundred additional papers, conversation groups, workshops, interest groups, panels, poster sessions, showcases, denominational meetings, worship programs, committee meetings, and a diversity movie and discussion, it is safe to say that the ATLA 2012 conference provided something for everyone.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the overall success of our conference: the Annual Conference and Education Committee members, the Board of Directors, our speakers, presiders, regional, denominational, and interest group members, ATLA staff, and all the ATLA members who make me feel extremely proud to be a part of this great association. I am exceptionally fortunate, privileged, and blessed.

And as always, we are already planning our next ATLA conference, *The Speed of Change*, being held at the Charlotte Westin, North Carolina, June 19-22, 2013. The Annual Conference and Education Committees are now accepting session proposals for next year's conference. Please visit our [2013 conference website](#) for information regarding proposal submissions.



-Denise McFarlin  
Meeting Specialist

### **A Note From Your Local Host Committee**

Thank you to all who attended the ATLA 2012 conference held in Scottsdale, Arizona. We sincerely hope you enjoyed your visit here, were enriched by the sessions you attended and left with something new you can introduce into your work place.

While different than more recent conferences and a little warmer than other locations, we trust the desert retreat was a positive experience. From the resort setting to worship services following the Spiritual Disciplines, new things were tried.

For those of you unable to attend the conference this year, we missed you! We realize some of you may not have been able to attend due to lateness of dates, especially those whose institutions run on fiscal years ending on June 30. We hope to see you next year in Charlotte, North Carolina. We extend to all of you an invitation to visit Arizona anytime and experience all that we have throughout the year.

## October 1 Application Deadline for 2013 Wabash Colloquy

Theological librarians in the twenty-first century play an essential role in theological education. Institutional standards developed by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) highlight the centrality of the library for theological scholarship and education. Librarians serve at a nexus of faculty, student, and institutional instructional needs. This colloquy will explore the vocation of theological librarianship and promote the development of strategies and skills for increasing the effectiveness of librarians in the teaching and learning process in their institutional and professional contexts. The application deadline for this event is October 1, 2012. For more information, visit [www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu](http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu).

## Staff News

### Diane Pugh Departs ATLA

Diane Pugh, Manager of Preservation Projects, left ATLA at the end of July. Her position was eliminated for business reasons based upon the completion of all preservation related projects. Diane made valuable contributions to ATLA and we thank her for her 10+ years of dedicated service. During the coming year, ATLA leadership will be engaged in research and discussion about what future role ATLA should play regarding preservation, including surveying ATLA institution members about their needs. Any future questions related to preservation microforms should be sent to Margot Lyon, Director of Business Development, at [mlyon@atla.com](mailto:mlyon@atla.com).

## ATLA Staff Visit Theological Book Network

On July 17th, Brenda Bailey-Hainer, ATLA's Executive Director, and Margot Lyon, ATLA's Director of Business Development, travelled by car and Lake Michigan ferry to visit the office of [Theological Book Network](#) (TBN), located in Grand Rapids, MI. Brenda and Margot met with Nancy Arnison, TBN's newly-appointed Executive Director, Wayne Bornholdt (Director of Acquisitions and Distribution) and Greg Heynen (Logistics). The meetings included an overview of the organizations and explored areas of common ground for future exploration.



## ATLA Calendar

### August

- 10-14: IFLA 78th General Conference and Assembly, Helsinki, Finland - Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 24: ATLA office closed for summer outing

### September

- 8-12: Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie (BETH) 41st General Assembly, Belfast, Northern Ireland - Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 19-23: Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), Kansas City, MO - Miguel A. Figueroa attending

### October

- 1: NFAIS Humanities Round Table, New York City - Margot Lyon and Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 18-20: ATLA Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, IL

# **An Overview of the Process for the Nomination of Candidates for Election to the ATLA Board**

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1. February. The Nominating Committee for Board Candidates writes an article for the March ATLA Newsletter providing information on how members may submit names for consideration to the committee and giving April 1 as the deadline for the submission of nominations.
2. April. The Nominating Committee identifies potential nominees to be contacted, including current Board members who are eligible for re-election.
3. May. The Committee develops a short list and begins contacting potential nominees. Its goal is to have a slate of six candidates in place by the end of the month.
4. June. During the Annual Conference members of the committee meet with the six candidates to confirm their interest in running and to answer any questions they may have. If the slate is incomplete, or if any of the candidates withdraws, the committee continues seeking candidates.
5. July 1. By this date the Committee will have submitted an article for the August ATLA Newsletter outlining the nominating process, including information on the petition process once a slate has been announced.
6. October 1. The Committee will by now have submitted to the Board Secretary and the Director of Member Programs a slate of at least six candidates for the four places to be filled on the Board.
7. October 1. By this date the Director of Member Programs will have asked each nominee to submit biographical information, along with a statement concerning his or her view of the Association's needs and/or mission. These materials will be included with the ballot.
8. October 15. The Director of Member Programs will by now have sent a letter to ATLA members on behalf of the Secretary of the Board announcing the candidates and including information about making petition nominations to the Secretary.
9. December 1. Deadline for the submission, by petition, of additional nominations by the membership.
10. December 1- January 15. Nominees by petition. The Secretary asks the Director of Member Programs to confirm that the nominee and all the petitioners are individual members of ATLA. The Secretary informs the "petition" nominee of board member duties and verifies his/her willingness to serve. The Director of Member Programs requests the biographical information for the ballot.
11. January 15. By this date the Director of Member Programs will have prepared the ballots, including biographical data on nominees, and sent them to institutional and individual members.

## Nominations by Petition

Nominations other than those submitted by the Nominating Committee may be made by petition signed by no fewer than ten (10) Individual members of the Association and shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association no later than the next following December 1. These nominations may be submitted by fax, email, or surface mail and shall be included on the ballot with the nominees presented by the Nominating Committee.

H. D. (Sandy) Ayer  
Chair  
ATLA Nominating Committee

## Member News

### Theological Libraries Month October 2012

Theological Libraries Month (TLM) is scheduled annually in October for the purpose of advancing the importance and value of theological libraries and library services to targeted faculty, administrators, staff, and students. TLM materials and a planning guide to help make your Theological Library Month activities a success are available on the [ATLA website](#). In addition, [mini-grants](#) of up to \$500 are available to help fund activities for TLM at your institution. Applications for mini-grants are due by September 15.



### International Collaboration Grant Applications Due October 18

Grants up to \$2,000 are available for projects that foster collaboration between ATLA member institutions and other institutions abroad. Projects must be collaborative in nature and special consideration will be given to those embracing innovative methods of connecting with transoceanic colleagues and/or facilitating a two-way knowledge exchange. All ATLA Institutional, International Institutional, and Affiliate Members are eligible to apply. The deadline for applications is October 18, 2012. Submission requirements and a list of past grant recipients can be found at: <https://www.atla.com/Members/programs/awards/Pages/International-Collaboration-Grant.aspx>. Inquiries, questions, and the grant applications should be sent to: [memberrep@atla.com](mailto:memberrep@atla.com).

### ATLA 2010-2011 Annual Report Available Online

The American Theological Library Association's (ATLA) [2010-2011 Annual Report](#) is now available. The report highlights the many accomplishments of the association, including the work of the association's committees and improvements to ATLA's products. A report from the independent auditing firm, Legacy Professional LLP, is also provided, offering an account of the association's finances at the conclusion of fiscal year 2010-11.

### ATLA Endowment Committee Announces Donation Matching Opportunity for 2012-2013

The ATLA Endowment Committee is pleased to announce a special fundraising opportunity for the 2012-13 Membership Year. Donations made to the ATLA Endowment Fund this year will be matched with ATLA product revenue up to a total of \$7,500. Now, more than ever, donations to the ATLA Endowment will truly have an impact.

The Endowment Fund's purpose is to secure the future of ATLA as a membership association. The fund received its first major gift in 1993 when Mrs. Jean Kelly Morris gave stock shares valued at \$11,600 in memory of her late husband, Dr. Raymond P. Morris. This lead gift, in conjunction with charitable contributions of many individual members and friends, matching gift contributions by ATLA and sound investment strategies, have increased the value of the Endowment Fund to more than \$270,000.

In addition to cash gifts, the Endowment Fund is also able to receive gifts of land, stock, life insurance policies, and other financial instruments. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent provided by law. Contributions are invested in an investment portfolio where the principal remains untouched.

To find ways to support the Endowment Fund or to make a contribution, please visit <https://www.atla.com/Members/programs/endowment/Pages/Contribute-Now.aspx>.

### Additional Committee Appointments

The June/July 2012 issue of the *ATLA Newsletter* featured the list of outgoing committee members and new appointments (<https://www.atla.com/community/ATLA%20Member%20Publications/newsletter0612.pdf>, p. 5). Three additional committee appointments have been made, which completes the appointments for 2012-13.

- Bill Faupel (12-16) and Dennis Swanson (12-19) have joined the Endowment Committee.
- Tim Erdel has joined the International Collaboration Committee (Latin America, 12-16).

Much of the work accomplished toward meeting ATLA's Organizational Ends is done by Individual and Lifetime members who serve on committees. Please extend a warm welcome to these members who are beginning their service.

## Member News (con't)

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### ATLA Adopts Revised Bylaws

As indicated in the Report of the Secretary of the Board for the 2012 ATLA Annual Conference (below), ATLA membership approved changes to the bylaws which went into effect June 29, 2012.

Changes to the bylaws were proposed by the ATLA Bylaws Committee, including Beth Bidlack (chair), Saundra Lipton, and Eileen K. Saner. The proposed changes were shared with members in Spring 2012 and again at the first business meeting of the ATLA 2012 Annual Conference, with no resultant changes or indications of amendment.

The newly revised bylaws are available on the ATLA web site on the [ATLA Community Page](#).

Changes to the bylaws include:

- Editorial clarifications
  - Listing "United States and Canada" in the definition of Institutional Members to better clarify the distinctions between "Institutional" and "International Institutional" memberships.
  - Updating the names of regional accreditation agencies.
  - Moving Article 4, "Board of Directors" to become Article 3, allowing a greater logic within the Bylaws to describe the Board of Directors and then describe the Board Officers.
- Clearing a path towards voting for bylaws and changes outside the context of an annual meeting or special meeting, including the option for electronic voting for bylaws changes.
- Updating the grace period for membership renewal from 90 days to 60 days.
- Establishing Association Committees and Interest Groups under the creation and oversight of the Executive Director.

### Member Update

Congratulations to Jane Marie Pinzino on her appointment as the Seminaries Librarian at Earlham School of Religion and Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, IN. The two seminaries collaborate in a number of ways including the sharing of library resources. Pinzino has an M.Div. from Duke University, a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from University of Pennsylvania, and an M.A. in Library and Information Science from University of South Florida.

Dr. Kenneth Litwak, adjunct reference librarian at Azusa Pacific University, has had his chapter, "The Use of the Old Testament in Luke-Acts: Luke's Scriptural Story of the 'Things Accomplished Among Us'," recently published in *Issues in Luke-Acts: Selected Essays* (Gorgias Press, 2012), edited by Sean A. Adams and Michael Pahl and part of the Gorgias Handbooks series.

If you have personal updates or announcements that you would like shared in the ATLA Newsletter, please send them to [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com).

### Job Openings

Are you in the market for a new position? Be sure to check the [ATLA web listings](#) to see who is hiring now.

Several positions have been posted this month:

**Biola University**, La Mirada, CA, is seeking a [Dean of the Library](#).

The **Theological Book Network**, Grand Rapids, MI, is seeking a [Chief Operating Officer and Director of Advancement](#) to be responsible for enhancing the internal organizational processes and infrastructure, enabling the Theological Book Network (the Network) to grow and fulfill its mission.

The **Lewis A. Jackson Library of Indiana Wesleyan University**, Marion, IN, invites applications for the Library faculty position of [Systems and Web Librarian](#).

# **Report of the Secretary of the Board ATLA Annual Conference, 2012, Scottsdale, AZ**

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## **Minutes of the Business Meeting I: Thursday, June 28, 2012**

The business meeting was convened by Board President John Weaver at 1:00 pm.

Carrie Hackney presented the Secretary's report. Members of the Teller's Committee were James Estes, William Faupel (chair), and Karen Madigan. The Committee received the election results via e-mail from Survey & Ballot Systems and verified that 271 valid ballots were received. The membership elected Sandy Ayer, Carrie Hackney, Timothy Lincoln, and Melody Layton McMahon to the Board of Directors for the 2012-2015 term of office. The Secretary's report was accepted.

Beth Bidlack, Chair, Bylaws Committee, along with committee members Sandra Lipton and Eileen K. Saner, presented the proposed revisions to the ATLA Bylaws. William Hook moved to accept the proposed revisions to the ATLA Bylaws. André Paris seconded. The proposed changes will be voted on at the Friday, June 29, 2012 business meeting. The membership was encouraged to attend the Friday business meeting and voting members were reminded to bring the balloting cards to the Friday meeting. Only those with balloting cards will be eligible to vote. Replacement balloting cards will not be available on site at the Friday meeting.

President Weaver delivered the presidential address, "Library as Trust." The meeting was adjourned until Friday, June 29th at 1:00 p.m.

## **Minutes of the Business Meeting II: Friday, June 29, 2012**

The business meeting was convened by Board President, John Weaver at 1:00 p.m.

President Weaver called for the establishment of a quorum for institutional and individual members. A quorum of 25 institutional members was established with tellers reporting a total of 51 institutional members present to vote. A quorum of 75 individual members was established with tellers reporting a total of 75 individual members present to vote. The president called for the motion. Beth Bidlack made the following motion:

"Mr. President, the committee appointed to revise the bylaws has agreed upon the draft distributed to the ATLA membership in spring 2012, and has directed me to move its adoption. This draft was offered to the entire membership in online forums for two months prior to the conference, and at yesterday's meeting for comment, with no resultant changes or indications of amendment. Mr. President, by direction of the committee, I move the adoption of this revision of the bylaws."

The President called for the vote. Among institutional representatives, 51 voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative. Among individual members, 112 voted in the affirmative with one abstention. The motion was adopted. The revised Bylaws will immediately go into effect.

Retirees, Sara Myers (Columbia Theological Seminary), Roger Loyd (Duke Divinity School), Norma Sutton (North Park University) and Russell Pollard (Harvard Divinity School) were recognized for their contributions to ATLA.

The new Board officers for 2012-2013 were introduced: Andrew Keck (President), Beth Bidlack (Vice President), and Eileen Saner (Secretary).

President Weaver recognized the outgoing Board members Carisse Berryhill and Laura Wood for their contributions and time served on the Board. Gifts were presented to each outgoing Board member.

President Weaver concluded the meeting by passing the "gravel" to the incoming Board President, Andrew Keck. The Business meeting adjourned at 1:55pm.

## **Board of Directors Meeting: Wednesday, June 27, 2012**

The Board discussions included items and recommendations from the report of the Executive Director; the dates, locations, and annual cycle for Board meetings and agendas. The Board will hold three meetings per year: October, February and June. The October Board meeting was set for noon Thursday, October 18, 2012 to noon Saturday, October 20, 2012, in Chicago at the ATLA Headquarters. Suggested topics for the October meeting might include a discussion of preservation of products and a discussion of identity of the

association. Reports were received on the work of the Governance and Finance Committees. The Board also spent time working on the revision of the ATLA Ends 1.3 thru 2.2 of the Board Policy Manual.

The Board held a luncheon meeting with the participants in "The Creating Leaders of Tomorrow" program. The cohort consists of nine mid career theological or religious studies librarians and is designed to help develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become library directors. Miguel A. Figueroa, newly appointed Director of Member Programs, met with the Board to share how his background as the Director, Office for Diversity and Spectrum Scholarship program and Director, Office for Literacy and Outreach Services at the American Library Association (ALA) will benefit the American Theological Library Association. He hopes to create new programs and services for the members.

-Carrie M. Hackney, Secretary, ATLA Board of Directors

### **Board of Directors Meeting: Sunday, July 1, 2012**

Board members reported on the various events of the Annual Conference and shared comments received from the members. The Governance and the Finance Committee recommended changes to the Board Policy Manual which were adopted with minimal revision. President Andy Keck announced the members of the Governance Committee and the Finance Committee for the upcoming year. These committees and three task forces will work on various tasks in preparation for the next meeting of the Board in October. The Board will use the wiki on Sharepoint to discuss revisions of the Organizational Ends. Brenda suggested topics for discussion at the October and February meetings.

-Eileen Saner, Secretary, ATLA Board of Directors

## **From the Executive Director**

### **Preservation and ATLA**



For over fifty years, ATLA was involved with the preservation of serials and monographs through the creation of microforms. Funding for these efforts was secured from member institutions, sales of the resulting material, and grants. The final microfilming project ended in April 2010 with the successful conclusion of the last project funded by NEH.

Grant funding for these types of preservation projects is no longer readily available as potential funders have shifted their focus to the creation and preservation of digital materials. Many experts still view microforms as the most reliable format for preservation, but scholars, faculty, and students continue to loathe using them. The newest generation of researchers, many of whom are digital natives, has come to expect materials to be available online anytime, anywhere. However, providing digital access to materials is not synonymous with preserving them.

The information environment in which ATLA members operate is quite different than it was fifty years ago. A number of other organizations that were not in existence at that time have begun to work on solutions for providing long term access to monographs, journals, and other scholarly material. Academic libraries around the world are concerned about the digitization of materials, but other organizations have made great strides in digitizing commercially produced materials. Libraries are now free to concern themselves with the preservation and digitization of local, unique materials that they hold.

As the result of the changing environment regarding long-term access to materials, the role of ATLA in assisting members with preservation efforts may need to change as well. During the coming year ATLA will step back to consider what its role in preservation should be in the future. The first step was to acknowledge the end of grant funded preservation projects at ATLA by eliminating a position that was created to manage these microfilming projects. The second step will be an assessment of member needs to provide current data that can be used for decision making. This effort will begin with a survey that will be sent to every institutional and affiliate member in September.

What should ATLA's future role be? A preservation institution? A training provider? A convener of meetings? A grant coordinator? A participant in a larger collaborative? Or, all of the above? With your input and help, ATLA can create future services that will benefit us all.

**--Brenda Bailey-Hainer**